

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LONDON 00715 141749Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07
LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 L-03 NSC-05
PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 DHA-02 OC-06 CCO-00
/097 W

-----150132Z 045596 /71

R 141738Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9508
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS
USMISSION OECD PARIS
AMCONSUL BELFAST
AMCONSUL EDINBURGH
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

UNCLAS LONDON 00715

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB. SHUM, UK
SUBJECT: UNIONS BOYCOTT AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA

1. KEY BRITISH UNIONS IN TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS
HAVE RESPONDED VERY AFFIRMATIVELY TO THE ICFTU'S CALL FOR
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 LONDON 00715 141749Z

A BOYCOTT AND OTHER ACTIONS TO PROTEST APARTHEID IN SOUTH
AFRICA. FOR A WEEK, BEGINNING AT MIDNIGHT ON SATURDAY,
(JANUARY 15), BRITISH DOCKERS, AIRCRAFT, POSTAL AND OTHER
WORKERS HAVE BEEN ASKED BY THEIR LEADERS TO BLOCK CARGO,
POSTAL AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS WITH THAT COUNTRY. THESE
PLANNED ACTIONS HAVE BEEN STRONGLY CRITICIZED BY THE
CONSERVATIVES IN PARLIAMENT WHO CHARGE, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT

A POSTAL BOYCOTT WOULD BE ILLEGAL. THE GOVERNMENT THUS FAR, HOWEVER, IS NOT INTERVENING. (A PRIVATE ORGANIZATION, THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREEDOM IS CONSIDERING LEGAL ACTION TO PREVENT THE POSTAL UNION'S BOYCOTT OF MAIL DELIVERIES.) THE INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT WORKERS FEDERATION, WITH HEADQUARTERS IN LONDON, HAS ENDORSED THE BOYCOTT.

2. THE UNION OF POST OFFICE WORKERS, LED BY TOM JACKSON, WAS "FIRST OFF THE MARK" AFTER THE TUC CIRCULARIZED ITS AFFILIATES TO TAKE ACTION. THE UPW EXECUTIVE UNANIMOUSLY DECIDED TO ASK ITS MEMBERS IN POSTAL, TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPHIC WORK TO CUT COMMUNICATIONS. THIS WAS FOLLOWED BY SIMILAR DECISIONS FROM THE TUC'S GIANT TRANSPORT WORKERS UNION, WHOSE DOCKERS WERE REQUESTED NOT TO HANDLE SOUTH AFRICAN CARGOES; THE NATIONAL UNION OF SEAMEN WHICH ASKED ITS MEMBERS NOT TO ACCEPT WORK ON SHIPS BOUND FOR SOUTH AFRICA NEXT WEEK AND FROM OTHER UNIONS. IN ADDITION, JACK JONES, THE LEADER OF THE TRANSPORT WORKERS, LED A DELEGATION TO THE SOUTH AFRICAN EMBASSY WITH A PETITION CALLING FOR THE RELEASE OF SEAN HOSEY, WHO IS IN PRISON THERE. (IN ADDITION TO A GENERAL EXPRESSING OF OVERALL OPPOSITION TO SOUTH AFRICAN APARTHEID, THE TUC IS STRONGLY PROTESTING THE JAILING OF 24 INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE PART OF THE WORKERS' EDUCATION PROJECT FOR BLACKS WHICH HAS BEEN SUPPORTED FINANCIALLY BY THE TUC.)

3. ALTHOUGH THE PRACTICAL EFFECT OF THE BOYCOTT WILL NOT BE KNOWN UNTIL NEXT WEEK THE MEDIA HAS GIVEN TRADE UNION

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 LONDON 00715 141749Z

REACTION VERY CONSIDERABLE ATTENTION, INCLUDING FAIRLY EXTENSIVE COVERAGE ON TELEVISION. AN OFFICIAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT WORKERS FEDERATION HAS TOLD US HE IS IMPRESSED WITH THE EXTENT OF THE TRADE UNION RESPONSE. ARMSTRONG

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, TRANSPORTATION, TELECOMMUNICATION, APARTHEID, BOYCOTTS, LABOR UNIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LONDON00715
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770015-0624
Format: TEL
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770151/aaaabsus.tel
Line Count: 102
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 964471d9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21-Sep-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3598161
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNIONS BOYCOTT AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA
TAGS: ELAB, SHUM, UK, ICFTU
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/964471d9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009